

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (*Currently Amended*) Built-in ashtray for a motor vehicle, having a housing ~~which has~~ having a guide ~~by means of~~ via which an ashtray is displaceably moveable in a drawer-type manner ~~disposed in the housing into an open position~~, and having a holder for a cigarette lighter ~~which that~~ is mounted on the ashtray so that it can be moved into an operative position projecting upward from the ashtray, the built-in ashtray having a driving device ~~which that~~ moves the holder during the displacement of the ashtray out of the housing upward into the operative position ~~upward~~ and~~[[,]]~~downward during the displacement into the housing~~[[,]]~~ ~~in a downward manner~~, and ~~in that~~, a spring operatively arranged between the housing and a rearward area of the ashtray~~[[,]]~~ ~~a spring is arranged which changes such that~~ the ashtray is changed after the release of the locking from a moved-in closed position into a moved-out operative position,

wherein the spring ~~has a progressive characteristic spring curve is~~ configured such that ~~the a~~ spring force~~[[,]]~~ ~~which that~~ acts upon the ashtray in its moved-out operative position and presses the ashtray ~~toward the outside~~, out of the housing is greater than ~~the an~~ oppositely directed force

component of the ~~an~~ operating force acting in the ~~a~~ plane of the spring force during the inserting or operating of the cigarette lighter.

2. (*Currently Amended*) Built-in ashtray according to Claim 1, wherein the spring force acting upon the ashtray is initially greater out of an operative ~~during~~ movement of the ashtray into the opening position than during the subsequent movement of the ashtray into the closed position.

3. (*Currently Amended*) Built-in ashtray according to Claim 1, wherein the spring is formed by a band-type flat coil spring made of a thin spring band, an end-side holding section of the band-type flat coil spring being fastened to a lower housing wall, whereas a rolled-together area with windings facing away ~~spaced~~ from the holding section is supported ~~on~~ in a rearward-side cage-type receiving device of the ashtray.

4. (*Currently Amended*) Built-in ashtray according to Claim 3, wherein the area of the band-type flat coil spring ~~facing~~ at the end-side holding section is ~~curved more, that is,~~ has a smaller bending radius[[,]] than the area of a following portion of the band-type flat coil spring ~~which follows~~.

5. (*Currently Amended*) Built-in ashtray according to Claim 3, wherein the area of the band-type flat coil spring ~~facing away~~ spaced from the end-side holding section is provided with at least one punched-out section.

6. (*Currently Amended*) ~~Astray~~ Ashtray assembly for a passenger vehicle, comprising:

an ashtray housing,

an ashtray displaceable in said housing between a closed and open position,

a cigarette lighter holder carried by the ashtray and movable to a downward ~~in-operative~~ inoperative position when said ashtray is closed and to an upward operative position when said astray is open, and

a spring disposed between the housing and ashtray and operable to assist movement of the ashtray toward the open position,

wherein the spring ~~has a progressive characteristic spring curve~~ is configured such that ~~the~~ a spring force[[,]] ~~which-that~~ acts upon the ashtray in its moved-out operative position and presses the ashtray ~~toward the outside~~ outwardly of the housing, is greater than ~~the~~ an oppositely directed force component of ~~the~~ an operating force acting in ~~the~~ a plane of the spring force during ~~the~~ inserting or operating of the cigarette lighter.

7.     *(Currently Amended)* Ashtray assembly according to Claim 6, wherein the spring force ~~acting upon the ashtray~~ is initially greater ~~out of an operative~~ during movement of the ashtray into the open position than during the subsequent movement of the ashtray into the closed position.

8.     *(Currently Amended)* Ashtray assembly according to claim 1, wherein the spring is formed by a band-type flat coil spring made of a thin spring band, an end-side holding section of the band-type flat coil spring being fastened to a lower housing wall, whereas a rolled-together area with windings ~~facing away~~ spaced from the holding section is supported ~~on~~ in a rearward-side cage-type receiving device of the ashtray.

9.     *(Currently Amended)* Ashtray assembly according to Claim 8, wherein the area of the band-type flat coil spring ~~facing at~~ the end-side holding section ~~is curved more, that is,~~ has a smaller bending radius[[,]] than the area of the band-type flat coil spring which follows.

10.    *(Currently Amended)* Ashtray assembly according to Claim [[10]] 8, wherein the area of the band-type flat coil spring ~~facing away~~ spaced from the end-side holding section is provided with at least one punched-out section.

11. (*Canceled*)

12. (*Currently Amended*) A spring ~~according to Claim 11~~for assisting movement of a vehicle ashtray from a closed position to an open position, said ashtray being movable in a housing and carrying a cigarette lighter which is movable with respect to the ashtray between a downward inoperative position and an upward operative position,

wherein the spring is configured such that a spring force that acts upon the ashtray in its moved-out operative position and presses the ashtray out of the housing is greater than an oppositely directed force component of an operating force acting in a plane of the spring force during inserting or operating of the cigarette lighter, wherein the spring force ~~acting upon the ashtray~~ is initially greater ~~out of an operative position during movement of the ashtray out of the housing~~ than during the subsequent movement of the ashtray into the closed position.

13. (*Currently Amended*) A spring according to Claim ~~[[11]]~~12, wherein the spring is formed by a band-type flat coil spring made of a thin spring band, an end-side holding section of the band-type flat coil spring being fastened to a lower housing wall, whereas a rolled-together area with windings ~~facing away~~ spaced from the holding section is supported ~~on~~ in a rearward-side cage-type receiving device of the ashtray.

14. (*Currently Amended*) A spring according to Claim 13, wherein the area of the band-type flat coil spring ~~facing at~~ the end-side holding section ~~is curved more to have~~ has a smaller bending radius[[,]] than the area of a following portion of the band-type flat coil spring ~~which follows~~.

15. (*Currently Amended*) A spring according to Claim 13, wherein the area of the band-type flat coil spring ~~facing away~~ spaced from the end-side holding section is provided with at least one punched-out section.

16 – 17. (*Canceled*)